

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 435  
By Ridgeway

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Peyton Manning for his exemplary character and his outstanding contributions to Tennessee.

WHEREAS, throughout the course of Tennessee history, few have had such a profound impact on Tennessee athletics as Peyton Manning; and

WHEREAS, a native of New Orleans, the state of Tennessee is proud to call this remarkable gentleman our favorite adopted son; and

WHEREAS, during the course of his remarkable college football career, Peyton Manning has broken an incredible 19 school records, passing for 11,363 yards and scoring 89 touchdowns, making him the greatest passer in Tennessee football history; and

WHEREAS, Peyton Manning has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, even a brief list of which is inspiring: the prestigious Davey O'Brien Award, the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award as the National Collegiate Athletic Association's top quarterback, the *Football News*' Offensive Player of the Year Award and the Maxwell Award as college's top player; and

WHEREAS, he was also selected by SEC coaches to the All-SEC first team, for which he is one of only two Tennessee quarterbacks ever to be named to the team; and

WHEREAS, although he is a football prodigy, Peyton Manning is a team player who always gives credit to his teammates, who captured the SEC Championship in 1997; and

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WHEREAS, his magnificent athletic prowess notwithstanding, Peyton Manning has never overlooked the importance of his education, graduating with honors in Speech Communications in just three years; and

WHEREAS, his laudable academic performance has enabled Peyton Manning to be awarded membership into the prestigious Lambda Pi Eta honor society; and

WHEREAS, Peyton Manning was recognized for his exemplary academic efforts and outstanding football career by receiving the distinguished Honda Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the intense demands of his academic and football schedule never deterred Peyton Manning from devoting numerous hours of community service to the Boys and Girls Club and the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and

WHEREAS, despite the tempting offers of fame and fortune, Peyton Manning bypassed leaving the University of Tennessee one season early to enter the National Football League draft, verifying his true commitment to his education and to his team; and

WHEREAS, his countless accomplishments aside, Peyton Manning is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his proud parents, Archie and Olivia Manning; his brothers, Cooper and Eli; and his grandparents, Sis Manning, Cooper Williams and Francis Williams; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tennessee and the state of Tennessee are quite proud of the fine example that Peyton Manning has set; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a state is blessed with such a truly talented and dedicated individual as Peyton Manning who, through his commitment to academic and athletic excellence, has had an extraordinary influence on the citizens of Tennessee, young and old alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Peyton Manning for his exemplary character and the outstanding contributions he has made to the sport of football, to the University of Tennessee and to the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we thank Peyton Manning for the example he has set for the young people of our state, and wish him every continued success as a distinguished member of the National Football League.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Peyton Manning and his family, with this final clause omitted from such copies.